THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 26th January 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman (DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB) in the Chair.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB) :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received messages from the Hon. the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, dated, *Fort St. George*, the 23rd January 1948, in accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules transmitting copies of the following Bills as passed by the Assembly on the 23rd January 1948 and signed by him for the concurrence of the Council :—

(1) The Madras Silkworm Diseases (Prevention and Eradication) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1948).

(2) The Madras Home Guards Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1948)."

II.—COMMEMORATION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, to-day is the 26th of January, a day of commemoration on which the independence of this country was recognized. After recognition, many events took place and independence was finally announced on the 15th of August 1947. Many men and women have struggled hard for the freedom of this country and some of them have lost even their lives. A grateful posterity has got to pay its homage to their sacrifices. As far as this Council is concerned, I suggest that we stand up here for two minutes in commemoration of those martyrs."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I am glad to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Leader of the House. It is but fitting that we must pay our homage to those who have worked hard and sacrificed their all for the noble cause of achieving the independence of the country. With these words I support the suggestion made by the Hon. Leader of the House."

The suggestion was accepted and the whole House stood in silence for two minutes.

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS SILKWORM DISEASES (PREVENTION AND ERADICATION) BILL [a], 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 1 OF 1948) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Madras Silkworm Diseases Prevention and Eradictation) Bill*, 1947 (*L.A. Bill No.* 1 *of* 1948), *as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once*.'

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 51–54 infra.

" The necessity for such a Bill has been felt for a long time. It was proposed to bring such a legislation so long ago as 1943 but certain difficulties seemed to have stood in the way. Attempts were again made in 1945 to have this legislation passed for the benefit of sericulture in the Madras Province. Similar legislation is already in force in Mysore State. To protect our sericulture industry, and to see that it progresses on right lines, that the quality of silk produced is kept at a high standard and that the silkworm rearer gets proper return for the trouble he takes, this Bill has been introduced in and passed by the Assembly."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question is that clause 2 do stand part of the Bill."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I suggest that the Bill as a whole be put to the vote of the House instead of clause by clause."

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1 and the Preamble were put and carried separately.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Bill be passed into law.*'

This is a very important piece of legislation and I am sure the hon. Lady Member present in this House is very much interested in the quality of the silk that is produced in this Province. (Laughter.) Let me express to the House my gratitude for the expeditious passage of the Bill."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MADRAS HOME GUARDS BILL [a], 1948 (L.A. BILL NO. 2 OF 1948) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

11-15 a.m. THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras Home Guards Bill as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.*'

Hon. Members are aware of the disturbed state which unfortunately exists in this country to-day and the Government have therefore got to take such precautionary measures as are necessary to prevent any outbreak. It is better to find prevention beforehand than cure afterwards. The Government have decided that in several districts people should be trained in arms and in defence so that they may form a second-line defence to the police in emergencies and they have therefore proposed to constitute this force known as Home Guards. The constitution of the Home Guards is not intended against any particular community. Fortunately, communal amity has been existing in this Province and there had not been any great trouble in maintaining law and order, although there have been some sort of skirmishes in some

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 55–57 infra.